



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

State Board of Education Report

November 2015

Highlights of the State Board of Education meeting

State Board of Education

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AQuESTT:

Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow

The State Board authorized Education Commissioner Blomstedt to set the AQuESTT business rules based on the recommendations of the Board's data committee. The business rules will address the distribution percentages for the accountability classification levels of Nebraska public schools and districts under AQuESTT as well determine how the Evidence Based Analysis (EBA) will factor into the final classifications and set the process for designating priority schools. The first AQuESTT results will tentatively be released to the public in early December. AQuESTT is a new state accountability system developed to support and reward continuous improvement for every child, school and educator.

ESEA FLEXIBILITY, WAIVER

Nebraska Education Commissioner Matt Blomstedt said yesterday that Nebraska will suspend its work on its waiver request at this time. Based on leadership changes in the U.S. House of Representatives, Nebraska is optimistic that Congress will move forward soon with the long overdue reauthorization of ESEA.

See [USDE Letter: Feedback on ESEA Flexibility/Waiver Request](#)

TEACHER OF THE YEAR RECOGNIZED



Tim Royers, a social studies teacher at Millard West High School, was recently named Nebraska 2016 Teacher of the Year. The State Board of Education, Gov. Pete Ricketts and Education Commissioner Matt Blomstedt were among the guests who recognized Royers

and the Awards of Excellence winners at a luncheon held Thursday in their honor. The State Board also heard from Shelby Aaberg, a Scottsbluff High School teacher and the 2015 Nebraska Teacher of the Year.

STATE BOARD: STRATEGIC PLANNING

The State Board anticipates up to four vendors presenting their proposals for a 10-year strategic planning process to the Board for its consideration in December.

RULES 82 AND 51

Proposed revisions to Rule 82, regulations governing the Diploma of High School Equivalency Assistance Act, as well as Rule 51, regulations and standards for special education programs, will be considered in public hearings scheduled for November 18.

For detailed information about the work session or business meeting, visit <http://www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html> .

The State Board of Education will meet December 3-4, 2015.

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